

To: Fritz, Matthew[Fritz.Matthew@epa.gov]
From: Deese, Brian C. EOP
Sent: Wed 8/12/2015 4:52:20 PM
Subject: RE: Colorado/New Mexico update

Thanks Matt.

-----Original Message-----

From: Fritz, Matthew [mailto:Fritz.Matthew@epa.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 12:51 PM
To: Deese, Brian C. EOP; EOP/Ex. 6
Subject: Colorado/New Mexico update

Good afternoon Brian,

Instead of plugging in our situational report (which I can do with the when the most up-to-date one is issued around 3 PM today), I wanted to give you the highlights:

Administrator is in Colorado today - she met with Governor Hickenlooper and Senator Bennet this morning.

She is on her way to Durango. There she will meet with our Incident Commander, get a situational update and meet with local responders).

Prior to and during her travel to Colorado she did connect with their delegation

Tonight the Administrator will travel to New Mexico. She will begin Thursday by meeting with the President of the Navajo Nation. She will then travel to Shiprock and meet with the leadership from the Navajo Nation. She will return to Farmington, New Mexico to meet with the commander manning our Incident Command satellite office. She will also meet with state and local officials.

She has connected with the delegation and governor from New Mexico.

Response Activities

Awaiting data on the condition of the Animas and San Juan River. That information could be available this afternoon. Depending on the results, conditions may be able to return to normal in stretches of the river.

We continue to provide potable water, where needed. We are also providing water for livestock in New Mexico.

Work continues at the site of the release - wastewater continues to leave the tunnel but it is being treated before entering the creek prior to entering the Animas. When it enters the creek the water quality values are as good as existing conditions.

The Administrator has instructed all of our Regional Administrators to halt any operations that are on-going across the country that are similar to the assessment work being conducted at Gold King Mine until we conduct an independent assessment as to what transpired.

Unified Area Command has been established in Durango.

Plume is not discernable in the San Juan River - the leading edge is not visible. Based on the continued dilution and breakdown of the constituents in the plume, coupled with the volume of the waterbody, we do not expect any impacts to Lake Powell.

I hope that helps.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need any more information.

Matt